

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A monitoring system comprising:
a tracking mechanism for tracking a shopper and merchandise as said shopper is shopping and for generating a list of currently acquired items; and
a processor for comparing said list of currently acquired items to a list of purchased items generated at a point of sale and for providing any discrepancies.
2. The system according to claim 1, where said tracking mechanism comprises:
an object tracking component to track said merchandise;
a shopper tracking component to track said shopper; and
a behavior recognition component to analyze tracking information from said object tracking component and said shopper tracking component to determine acquisition events.
3. The system according to claim 1, further comprising:
a storage device for storing said list of currently acquired items.
4. The system according to claim 3, wherein said storage device also stores a history.
5. A monitoring method comprising:
analyzing location information and behavior information about a shopper as said shopper is shopping to generate a list of acquired items;
generating a list of purchased items at a point of sale;
comparing said list of acquired items to said list of purchased items; and
providing any discrepancies between said list of acquired items and said list of purchased items.

6. The method according to claim 5, further comprising:
comparing said list of acquired items and said location information having known merchandise locations and providing any discrepancies.
7. The method according to claim 5, further comprising:
gathering said location information and said behavior information about said shopper.
8. The method according to claim 5, further comprising:
storing a history of location information, behavior information, and acquired items.
9. A computer readable medium having instructions for performing a monitoring method, said method comprising:
gathering tracking information about at least one shopper substantially continuously from a point of entry into a shop;
generating a list of acquired items for said shopper;
scanning at a point of sale to generate a list of purchased items for said at least one shopper; and
comparing said list of acquired items and said list of purchased items and providing any discrepancies.
10. The computer readable medium according to claim 9, further comprising:
storing a history for said at least one shopper.
11. The computer readable medium according to claim 9, further comprising:
gathering information about said at least one shopper over a plurality of shopping trips.

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12. The computer readable medium according to claim 9, wherein generating said list of acquired items for said shopper is performed by analyzing said tracking information to recognize acquisition events.